CHAPTER 2 OF THE NEW SERIALIZATION!! THE "HALF-BOILED" DETECTIVE STORY BROUGHT TO YOU BY AN ALL-STAR STAFF!

ORIGINAL CREATOR:
SHOTARO ISHINOMORI
原作／石ノ森章太郎

監修／塚田英明（東映）
SUPERVISOR: HIDEAKI TSUKADA (TOEI)

CREATURE DESIGN: KATSUYA TERADA
クリーチャーデザイン
／寺田克也

URK!

SO, SHE REALIZED WE'RE NOT JUST ORDINARY PEOPLE, HUH?

SHE PROBABLY DIDN'T THINK WE'D DEFEND OURSELVES.

STRANGE. THE ATTACKS HAVE STOPPED.

THE EXTREMELY MYSTERIOUS POWER OF "THE WITCH OF THE T-JUNCTION"!!

不可解極まる「T字路の魔女」の能力!!

WAAAH!

風都探偵

SCRIPT: RIKU SANJO
ART: MASAKI SATOU

脚本／三条陸

作画／佐藤まさき

"FUUTO DETECTIVES" THE REQUEST THIS TIME.

IN THIS TOWN, THE WIND CARRIES EVERYTHING FROM THE SMALLEST HAPPINESS TO THE GREATEST MISFORTUNE... SHOTARO AND PHILIP ARE THE PRIVATE DETECTIVES OF FUUTO'S NARUMI DETECTIVE AGENCY. TODAY TOO, SUPERNATURAL CASES ARE BROUGHT IN TO THE TWO WHO "WON'T FORIVCE THOSE WHO MAKE THE CITY CRY."

THE CLIENT THIS TIME IS A YOUNG MAN WHO JUST CAME TO THE CITY FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE, TSUBOSAKI. THOUGH TSUBOSAKI HAD HIS BELONGINGS STOLEN BY THE "WITCH OF THE T-JUNCTION," HE FELL IN LOVE WITH HER AND WISHED TO MEET HER AGAIN...

SOME HAVE EVEN CALLED ME THE DEVIL BEFORE.

...THAT'S RIGHT. I'M PHILIP, SHOTARO'S PARTNER.

...IS THAT BOY ALSO A DETECTIVE?

TOKIME!

HMM...

...AT THE WITCH.

THAT'S WHY I CAME TO TAKE A LOOK...

SHOULD STOP CHASING AFTER ME.

YOU...

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO GET CHOPPED INTO PIECES.

CHAR-AC-TERS.

SHOTARO HIDARI, A PRIVATE DETECTIVE BELONGING TO NARUMI DETECTIVE AGENCY. SELF-PROCLAIMED HARD-BOILED, BUT HE IS ACTUALLY A HOTBLOODED "HALF-BOILED." HE LOVES FUUTO, WHERE HE WAS BORN AND RAISED AND WON'T FORGIVE THOSE WHO MAKE THE CITY CRY.

CHAPTER 2
BE WARY OF THE T | HIS PARTNER IS THE DEVIL.

ARE YOU OKAY, MR. CHUUTA?
!
I SEE, WE'RE BACK IN THE ORIGINAL FUUTO SOMEHOW.
THE ORIGINAL FUUTO?
UNDER-WORLD, YOU SAY...?
SO THE DOOR TO THAT UNDERWORLD IS AROUND HERE AFTER ALL...
AND THIS IS BEHIND THE TACHIKAWA BUILDING.

HOW FASCINATING!

QUICK, TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU'VE SEEN!

PHILIP, A DETECTIVE WHO FORMS A DUO WITH SHOTARO. HIS FAVORITE PHRASES ARE "HOW FASCINATING!" AND "HOW THRILLING!"

I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE ANY LONGER....

HEY, SAVE IT FOR LATER, PHILIP.

WHENEVER THIS GUY DEVELOPS AN INTEREST IN SOMETHING, HE BECOMES TOTALLY ABSORBED IN IT.

AH. DON'T BE SHY.

...THAN NECESSARY...

YEAH.

INTO THE WALL.

SO? YOU LET HER ESCAPE AGAIN?

SORRY FOR THE DISTURBANCE.

YOU AGAIN, DETECTIVE?

TOKIME, A MYSTERIOUS AND BEAUTIFUL WOMAN CALLED "THE WITCH OF THE T-JUNCTION". SHE OPERATES AS A THIEF IN FUUTO USING HER MYSTERIOUS POWER.

HOW ABOUT I GET ON THE REQUEST, TOO?

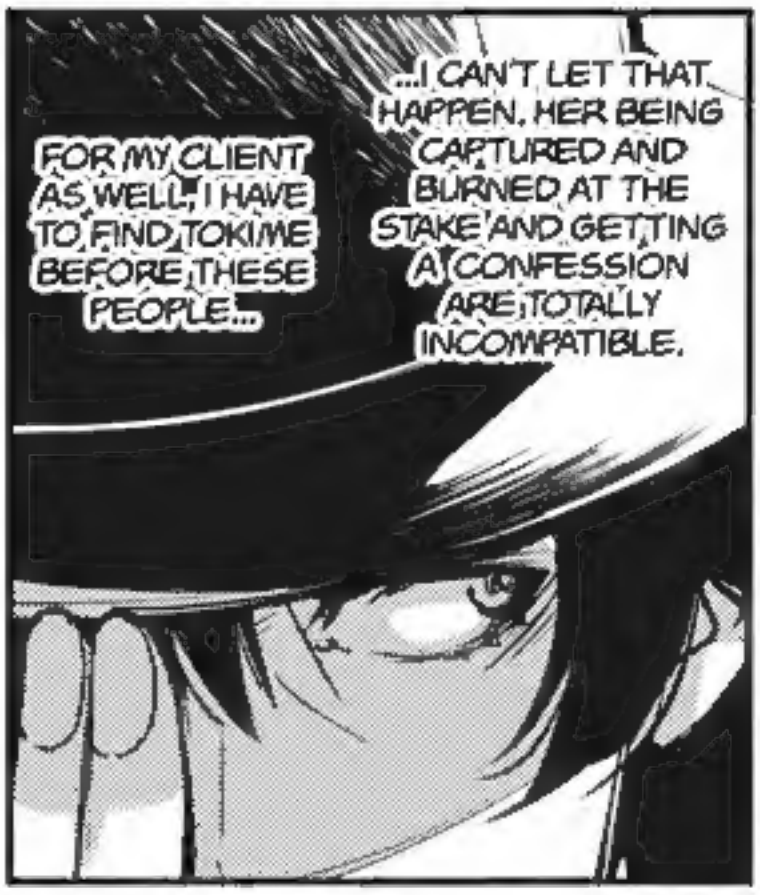
I GLADLY WELCOME HER CAPTURE.

IT'S FINE.

BUT PRESIDENT...!

WHATEVER, YOU CAN LEAVE.

WHAT A JOKER.


FOR MY CLIENT AS WELL, I HAVE TO FIND TOKIME BEFORE THESE PEOPLE...
...I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN. HER BEING CAPTURED AND BURNED AT THE STAKE AND GETTING A CONFESSION ARE TOTALLY INCOMPATIBLE.

TSUBOSAKI CHUUTA, THE CLIENT FOR THE CURRENT CASE. AS A VICTIM TO THE 'WITCH OF THE T-JUNCTION,' HIS BAG CONTAINING CASH WAS STOLEN. HOWEVER, HE FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH THE WITCH AND WISHED TO MEET HER AGAIN.

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A WOMAN WHO DISAPPEARS INTO WALLS!

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THAT'S IT!

LIKE A WITCH, OR RATHER, LIKE A CRIMINAL USING A MEMORY!

...SIMILAR TO WHAT TOKIME HAS.

THIS IS...

WELL, THERE ARE SOME WHO GAIN THE APPEAR-ANCE OF A SUPERHU-MAN...

THIS MIGHT BE A BAD WAY OF SAYING IT, BUT THEY MOSTLY LOOK LIKE MONSTERS.

MON... STER..

GAIA MEMORY.

HUMANS WHO INSERT IT INTO THEIR BODIES RECEIVE ENORMOUS DATA AND BECOME A KIND OF SUPERHUMAN.

BASICALLY, THESE COUNTLESS SMALL, DANGEROUS LEGACIES STILL SLEEP IN THIS CITY WHERE HUMANS CAN EASILY TURN INTO DEVILS...

IT WAS DESTROYED. HOWEVER, MEMORIES STILL EXIST IN THE CITY. THEY'VE BECOME RARE GOODS SOLD ON THE BLACK MARKET FOR HIGH PRICES.

IN THE PAST, THERE WAS AN ORGANIZATION WHICH DISSEMINATED MEMORIES.

I'M AFRAID THAT SHE TOO...

I HAVE MY PRIDE AS A DETECTIVE OF THIS CITY... OF FUUTO.

COULD YOU GIVE ME A BIT MORE TIME? I WILL DEFINITELY PREPARE THE ENDING YOU WISHED FOR.

MR. SHOTARO...

...I WILL PAY THE FEES INCURRED UNTIL NOW.

THERE-FORE, IT'S ENOUGH...

WAIT.

I...!

...HAVE HAD ENOUGH...

ナ
ラ...

THAT'S RIGHT. THERE'S NO NEED TO PANIC AND GIVE UP LIKE THAT.

FOR YOU TO END UP WITH ONLY DISGUST AND HATE TOWARDS FUUTO IN YOUR HEART AFTER LOSING YOUR MONEY AND YOUR LOVE... THAT'S THE WORST OUTCOME I CAN IMAGINE.

.....

THAT...

...MIGHT BE SO...

BESIDES, THERE'S PROBABLY NO ONE IN THIS CITY MORE KNOWLEDGABLE ABOUT MEMORIES.

FINALLY FOR IT, HUH?

PARTNER.

CAN I COUNT ON YOUR SEARCH?

AH, NO...

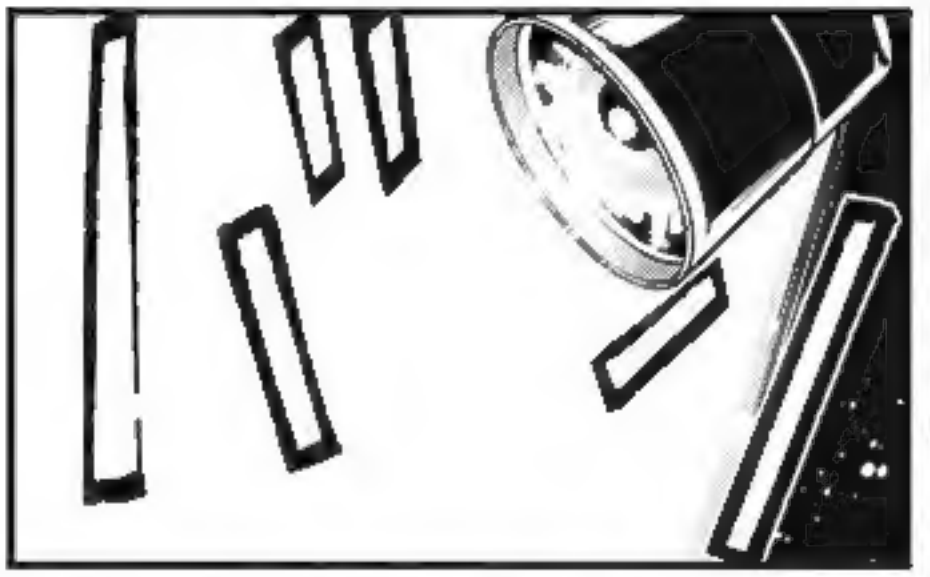
WELL, IT'S ON A MUCH BIGGER SCALE, SOME-THING LIKE THE SCALE OF THE EARTH OR SPACE.

AHAHA!

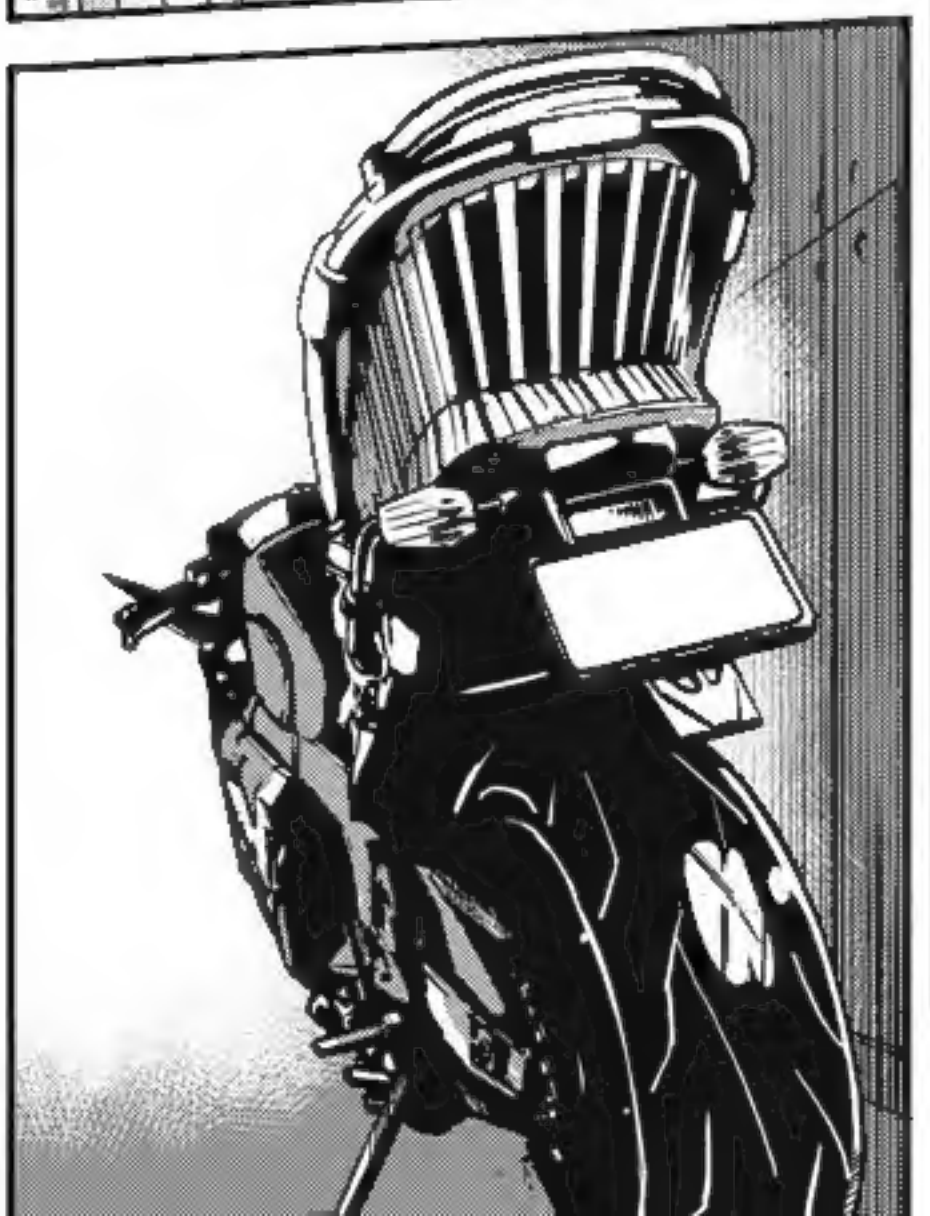
I CAN DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT MYSELF...

ARE YOU LOOKING IT UP VIA INTER-NET SEARCH?

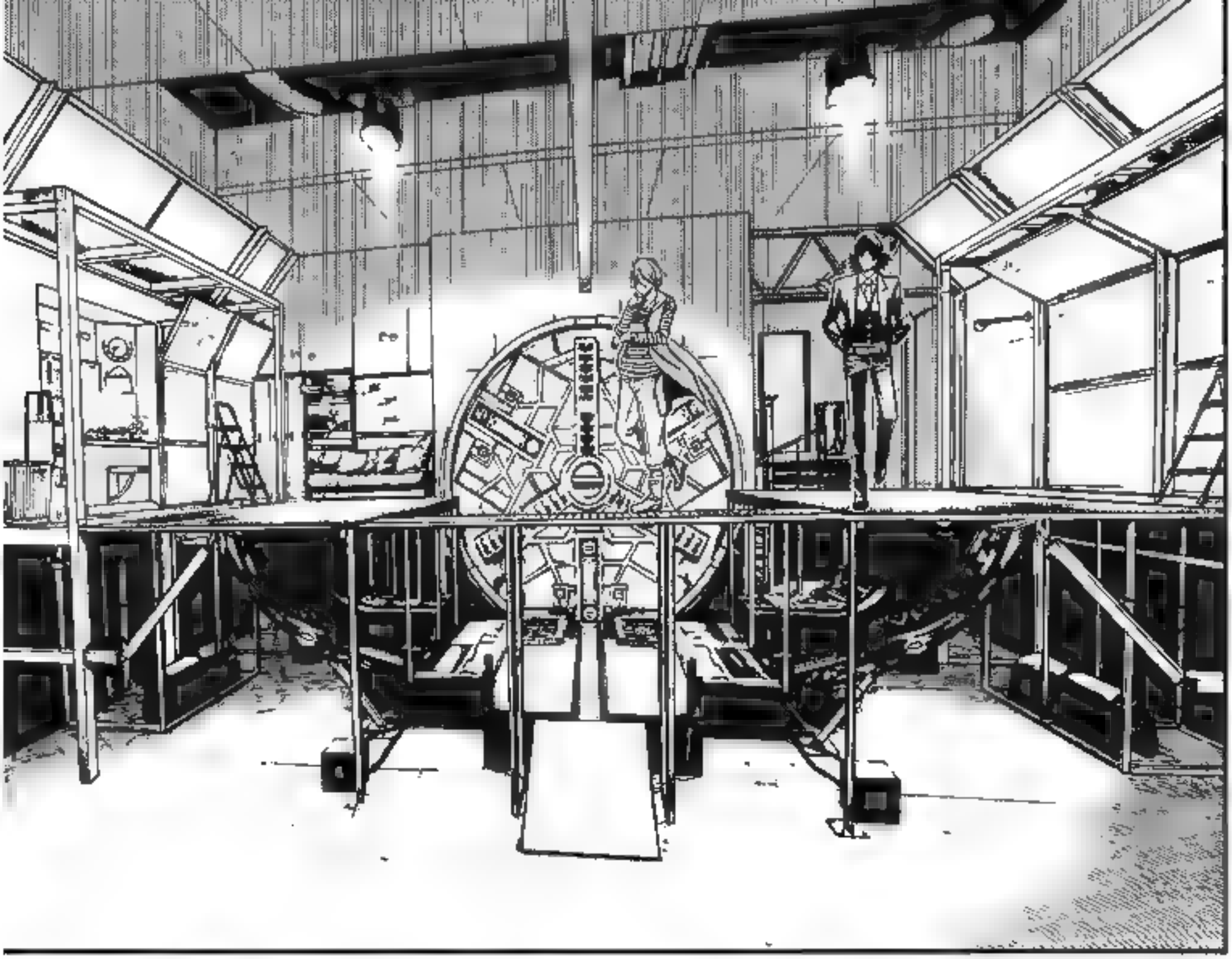
WAIT FOR THE GOOD NEWS, MR. CHUUTA!



TAIYAKI



ナレーション
THE DISAP-POINTMENT TSUBOSAKI CHUUTA FEELS SEEMS BIG.
I KNOW...
WE GOTTA HURRRY.
THAT'S RIGHT. THEN...



LET'S BEGIN THE SEARCH.

HE THEN PROJECTS THE INFORMATION FROM THAT LIBRARY ONTO HIS BELOVED BLANK BOOK AND IS ABLE TO READ IT THERE.

PHILIP'S CONCIOUSNESS IS CURRENTLY LINKED WITH THE TRUE GAIA MEMORY, WHICH APPEAR AS BOOKSHELVES.

HE CAN OBTAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF VARIOUS THINGS BY DIVING INTO THE MENTAL SPACE KNOWN AS THE "GAIA LIBRARY."

THIS IS PHILIP'S POWER!

THERE'S NO WAY TO GET THE NFORMAT ON WE WANT WITHOUT NARROWING IT DOWN.

HOWEVER, THE SHELVES CONTAIN ALL OF EARTH'S KNOWLEDGE.

WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER AND NARROW DOWN WHAT WE NEED BY USING KEYWORDS...

KEYWORDS ARE "UNDERWORLD,"

WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW IS THE NAME OF THE MEMORY.

"BLACK"...

"ANOTHER DIMENSION,"

"CITY,"

IT WILL BE QUITE TROUBLESOME TO READ THROUGH THIS NUMBER OF RESULTS.

THERE ARE 153 RESULTS. THAT'S THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMORIES WITH THE ABILITY TO GENERATE MAZES IN ANOTHER DIMENSION.

DID YOU MANAGE TO GET A LOOK AT THE INITIAL OF THE MEMORY SHE HAD?

IT'S DIFFICULT WITHOUT THE FAMILY NAME.

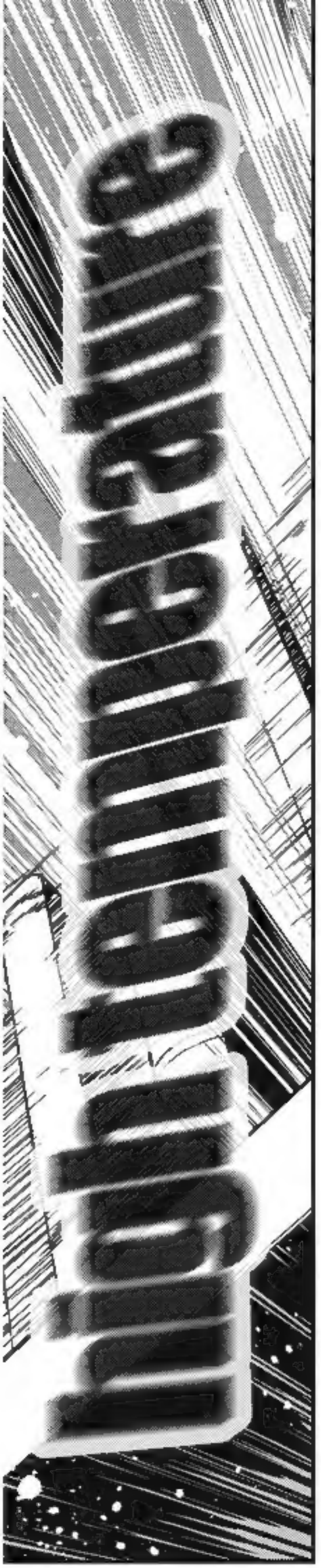
TOKIME

THERE WERE HITS FROM SEVERAL EXISTING PEOPLE AND FICTIONAL CHARACTERS.

I'VE ALREADY LOOKED UP THAT NAME. IT WASN'T VERY EFFECTIVE DESPITE IT BEING A RARE NAME.

HOW ABOUT "TOKIME"?

I WANT TO NARROW IT DOWN SOME MORE.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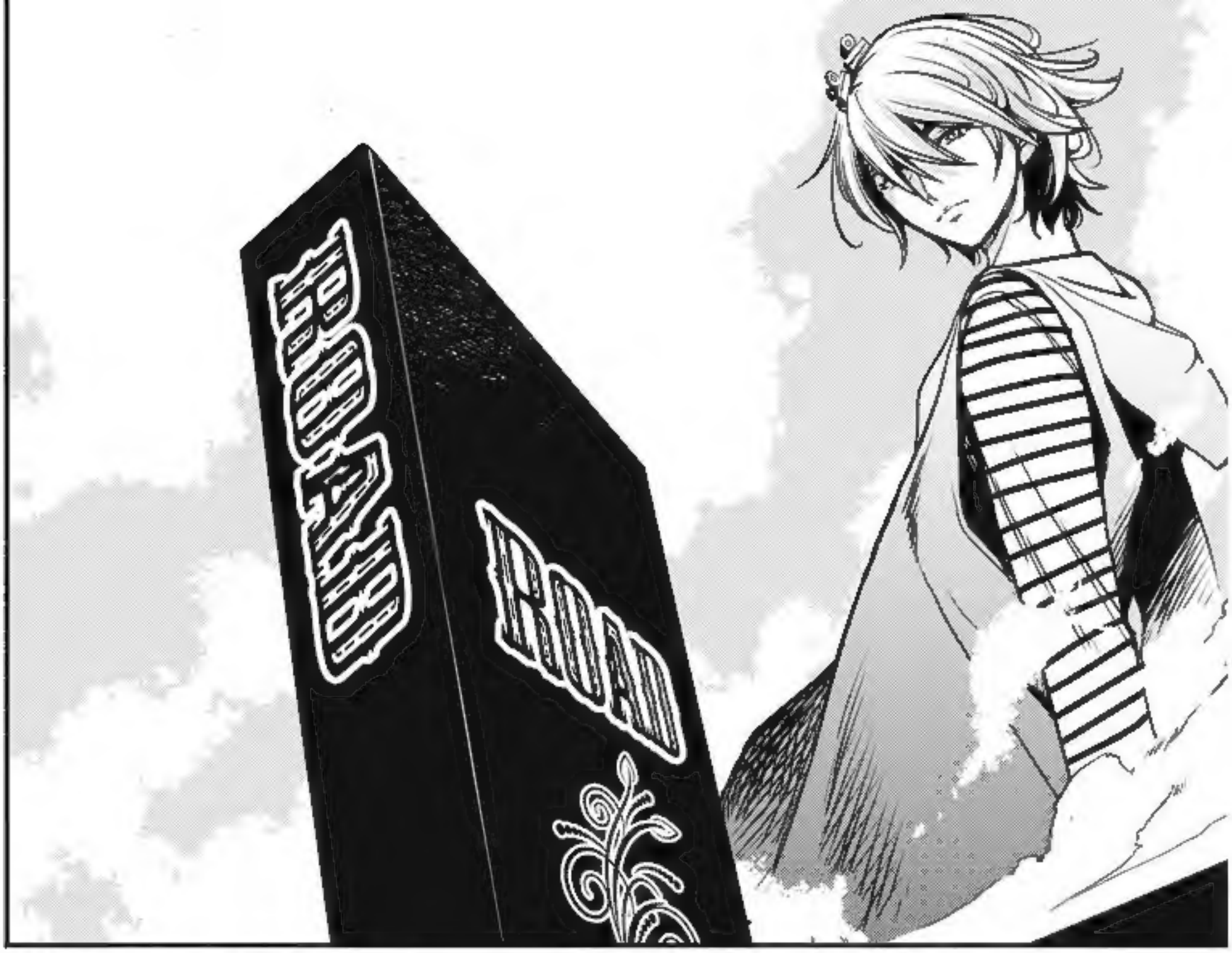
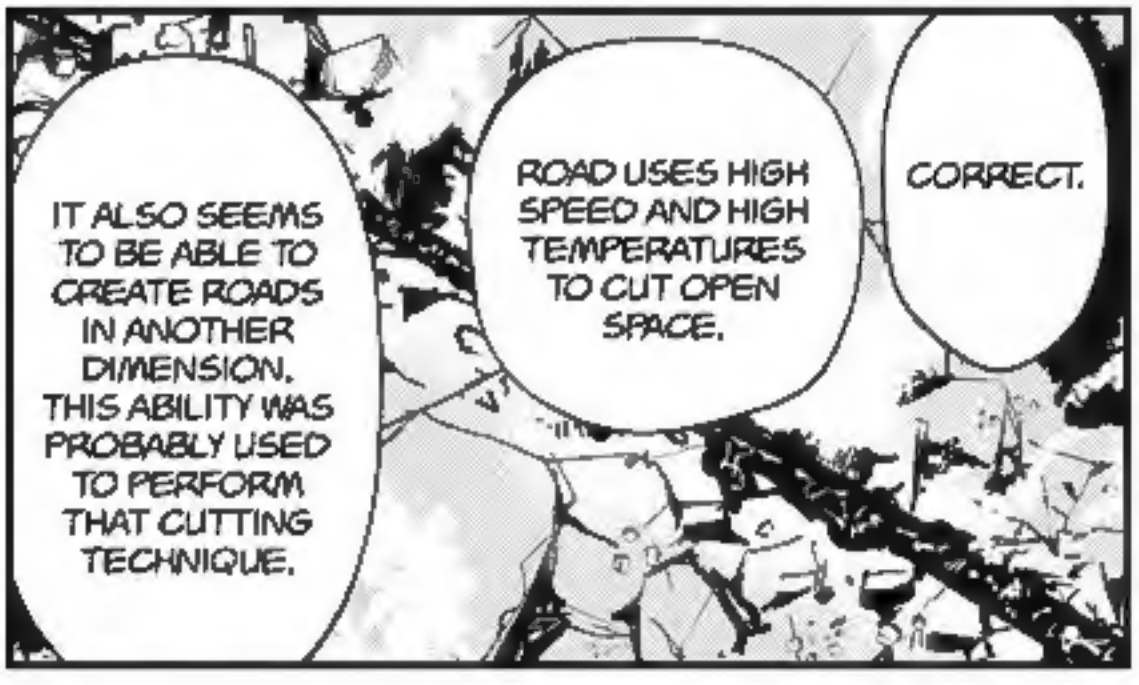

ROAD

"HIGH TEMPERATURE" WAS THE NECESSARY KEYWORD.
THE NAME OF THE MEMORY IS "ROAD."

BINGO.
I'VE IDENTIFIED THE MEMORY.
ROAD


IT ALSO SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO CREATE ROADS IN ANOTHER DIMENSION. THIS ABILITY WAS PROBABLY USED TO PERFORM THAT CUTTING TECHNIQUE.
ROAD USES HIGH SPEED AND HIGH TEMPERATURES TO CUT OPEN SPACE.
CORRECT.

EVEN THOUGH IT'S A CUTTING TECHNIQUE, I THINK ITS MAIN POWER IS BURNING.
WHEN ATTACKED, I FELT MORE HEAT BEFORE THE PAIN SET IN.

THIS IS BAD...

WHAT?!

?

THIS IS A GOOD INSTINCTIVE TRAIT FOR A GREAT CHIEF LIKE ME!

INSPIRATION IS IMPORTANT IN LIFE!

YOU ONLY MANAGED TO STARTLE ME!

HMM, SEEMS LIKE I SOMEHOW CONTIBUTED TO THE CASE!

YOU...!

WHAT?

SHOTARO, YOU DESCRIBED THE ROADS IN THE UNDERWORLD AS BLACK. HOWEVER, THE TRUTH IS THAT THEY'RE NOT SIMPLY BLACK.

THAT MEANS... DON'T TELL ME...

THE MORE ROAD CREATES MAZES IN ANOTHER DIMENSION, THE MORE THE USER'S FLESH IS CONSUMED, AND THE MORE THE USER NEEDS TO REPLENISH.

BASICALLY, THAT BLACK IS THE COLOR OF THE BLOOD ENTRENCHED THERE.

THOSE PATHWAYS ARE MADE FROM THE COMPONENTS OF THE ROAD USER'S BODY.

I'M ALWAYS HUNGRY.

EH?!

WOULD BE TO ABSORB HUMAN BODIES DIRECTLY.

THE FASTEST WAY...

EATS HUMANS?!

DOES THAT MEAN TOKIME...

SQUIRMING IN THE DARKNESS, EATING PEOPLE... THERE IS A "MONSTER" IN THIS CITY!

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